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October 3, 2001

Via E-Mail: USWA1@wdc.usda.gov

Mr. Roger Hinkle Chief, Licensing Authority Branch Warehouse & Inventory Division Farm Service Agency USDA STOP 0553 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20250-0553

Regarding The Proposed Rule: Implementation of the US Warehouse Act, 66 F.R. 46310, September 4, 2001

Dear Mr. Hinkle:

On behalf of the Cotton Growers Warehouse Association, representing nine warehousing organizations doing business in 11 or more states, whose combined membership represents over 25,000 producers, who annually produce over 5-million bales of cotton, I am making comment on the above-referenced Federal Register notice involving the US Warehouse Act:

Arbitration

Our Association has repeatedly instructed the Agency that we are opposed to any form of arbitration other than mutually agreed upon procedures in addressing disputes involving our members in cotton flow or other disputes. We object to the implication in this proposed rule that mandatory arbitration can be applied in certain instances in settling disputes.

Sincerely,

Vern F. Highley Executive Director

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